

DC

UNIVERSE

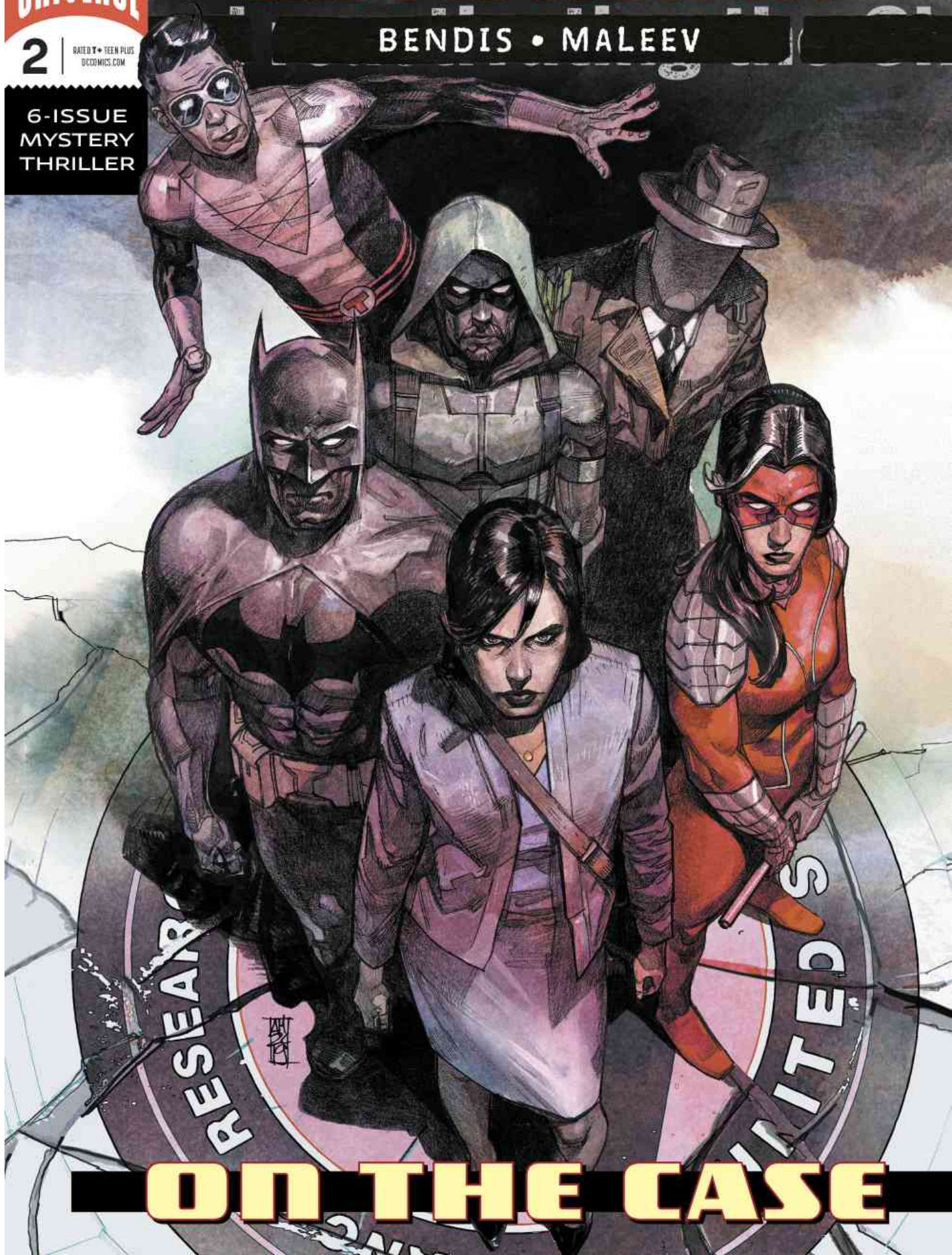
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RATED T+ TEEN PLUS
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6-ISSUE
MYSTERY
THRILLER

THE EVENT LEVIATHAN

BENDIS • MALEEV



ON THE CASE

BATMAN

Written by
TOM KING

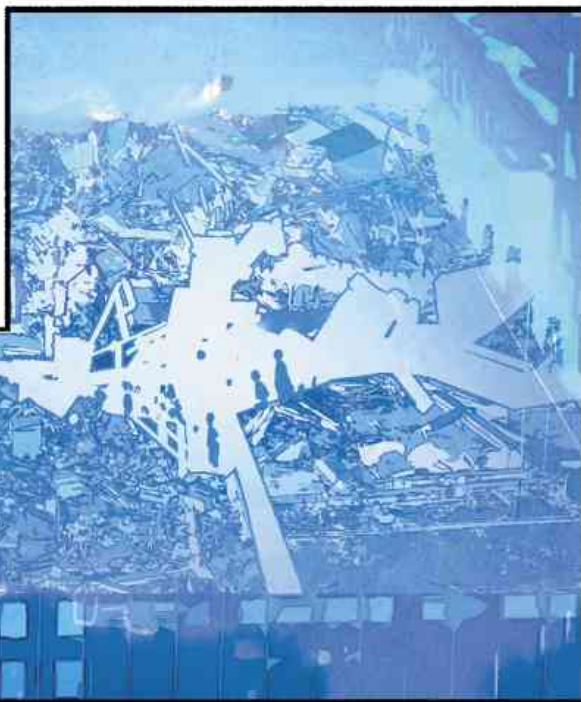
Art by
TONY S. DANIEL

THE DARK KNIGHT USED TO PROTECT GOTHAM CITY.

**"City of Bane" begins
in BATMAN #75**

on sale in JULY!





WHAT DO YOU SEE, JASON?



I SEE A BAT-MAN WHO CAN'T RESIST A GOOD GARGOYLE NO MATTER WHAT CITY HE'S IN.

BATGIRL AND GREEN ARROW WERE IN THE ATTACK ACROSS THE STREET.



BARBARA? IS SHE OKAY?

M.I.A.

LET'S GO WORK THE WRECKAGE.

SHE'S NOT THERE. NO BODIES.

I WANT AUTHORITIES TO DO THEIR JOBS ON THIS CRIME SCENE TO SEE IF THEY DO.

GREEN ARROW WAS FOUND IN HIS HOME BUT BATGIRL IS STILL M.I.A.



FOUND IN HIS HOME?

CAN WE PUT AWAY THE STUFF BETWEEN US SO WE CAN WORK THE CASE?



OF COURSE. WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD?



I HEARD IT'S ALL THE WAY BAD.

A.R.G.U.S., D.E.O., SPYRAL...

...AND IF THEY KNOW WHERE GREEN ARROW LIVES...

...KOBRA CULT AS WELL.

THE LIZARD PEOPLE?

NO LONGER A CONCERN.

EVERY PILLAR OF THE CLANDESTINE ORGANIZATIONS IS BEING PULLED DOWN.

THE PENTAGON HAS BEEN EVACUATED.

THE HALL OF JUSTICE IS ON LOCKDOWN.



YOU USED TO FANTASIZE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENING--

I TRIED TO PLAN FOR IT.

THAT'S NOT THE SAME THING



OH, I REMEMBER.

AND YOU DIDN'T SEE ANY OF THIS COMING?

NO PRE-EVENT CHATTER?

YEAH, WITH WHAT?

I'VE BEEN DISTRACTED.



JASON...
...HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING FROM TALIA AL GHUL?

A PERSON NAMED
LEVIATHAN HAS DONE THE
IMPOSSIBLE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY
TAKEN OUT MAJOR PILLARS OF
THE WORLD INTELLIGENCE
COMMUNITY.

D.E.O.

SPYRAL

THE D.E.O., SPYRAL, A.R.G.U.S.
ARE GONE. WIPE FROM THE EARTH.

Green Arrow
+
BATGIRL
survived one
attack.

BATGIRL was
offered a
place in
Leviathan.

No one has seen
her since.



Who is Leviathan? How have they accomplished so much so quickly? These questions have brought together the greatest detectives in the World: BATMAN, GREEN ARROW, PLASTIC MAN, THE QUESTION and the legendary reporter LOIS LANE.



Superman survived a kidnapping that only revealed that Leviathan is no longer in control of the woman who founded it...the legendary terrorist TALIA AL GHUL

BUT IT'S BATMAN'S YOUNG PROTÉGÉ ROBIN LOOKING OVER ALL OF THE EVIDENCE SO FAR, WHO WONDERS IF LEVIATHAN IS HIS PREDECESSOR JASON TODD A.K.A. ROBIN A.K.A. A MAN WHOSE SPECIAL WAR ON CRIME HAS BEEN A POINT OF CONTROVERSY FOR YEARS.

A MAN WHO JUST LOST HIS BEST FRIEND TO A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.

THE INFAMOUS
RED HOOD



DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS:

EVENT LEVIATHAN

PART 2

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS - SCRIPT
ALEX MALEEV - ART AND COVER
JOSH REED - LETTERS
JASON FABOK - VARIANT COVER
JESSICA CHEN - ASSOCIATE EDITOR
MIKE COTTON - EDITOR
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM - GROUP EDITOR



TALIA?

I SWEAR
I WAS JUST
ABOUT TO ASK
YOU THE SAME
THING.

JASON,
THE GREAT
PILLARS OF THE
WORLD INTELLIGENCE
COMMUNITY ARE
GONE.



IN THE MORNING, WE'RE
GOING TO FIND OUT
WHAT PLANS TO
TAKE ITS PLACE.

MEANWHILE,
HUNDREDS OF
PEOPLE, GOOD AND
GREAT PEOPLE,
ARE GONE.

AND THE
ONLY WORD
ON ANYONE'S
LIPS IS LEVIATHAN.



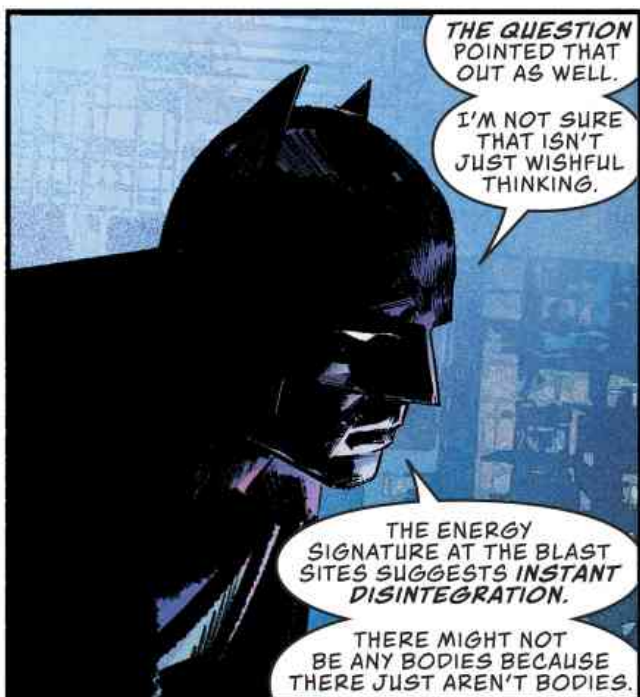
NO
BODIES.



AT ANY OF
THE DISASTER
SITES.

D.E.O.,
SPYRAL...

I HAVEN'T
SEEN ONE
ACTUAL DEAD
BODY.



THE QUESTION
POINTED THAT
OUT AS WELL.

I'M NOT SURE
THAT ISN'T
JUST WISFUL
THINKING.

THE ENERGY
SIGNATURE AT THE BLAST
SITES SUGGESTS INSTANT
DISINTEGRATION.

THERE MIGHT NOT
BE ANY BODIES BECAUSE
THERE JUST AREN'T BODIES.



BUT GREEN
ARROW--

GREEN
ARROW--



WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE,
BRUCE?

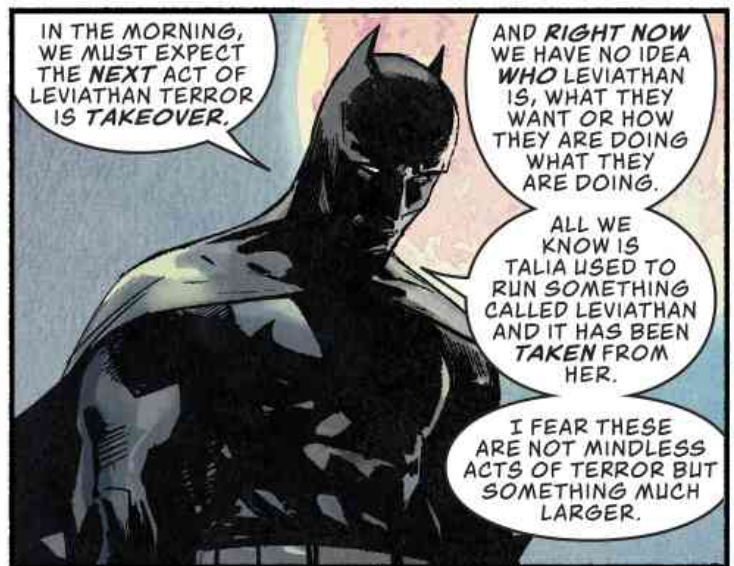


WHAT DO YOU THINK OF PUTTING TOGETHER A TEAM?

OF?

DETECTIVES. THE BEST OF THE BEST.

WE CAN'T KEEP THIS IN THE BAT-FAMILY?



IN THE MORNING, WE MUST EXPECT THE NEXT ACT OF LEVIATHAN TERROR IS TAKEOVER.

AND RIGHT NOW WE HAVE NO IDEA WHO LEVIATHAN IS, WHAT THEY WANT OR HOW THEY ARE DOING WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

ALL WE KNOW IS TALIA USED TO RUN SOMETHING CALLED LEVIATHAN AND IT HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM HER.

I FEAR THESE ARE NOT MINDLESS ACTS OF TERROR BUT SOMETHING MUCH LARGER.



IT'S A REVOLUTION.



THAT'S WHAT LOIS LANE SAID.

THE TEAM OF DETECTIVES WAS HER IDEA.

REPORTER LOIS LANE?

YOU'RE TALKING TO THE PRESS ABOUT THIS?



WHAT IF SHE IS LEVIATHAN?

THEN WE'RE ALL IN A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE.

BUT LEVIATHAN HAS ATTACKED HER ENTIRE FAMILY. HER FATHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL.



THE GREAT SUPERSPY SAM LANE?

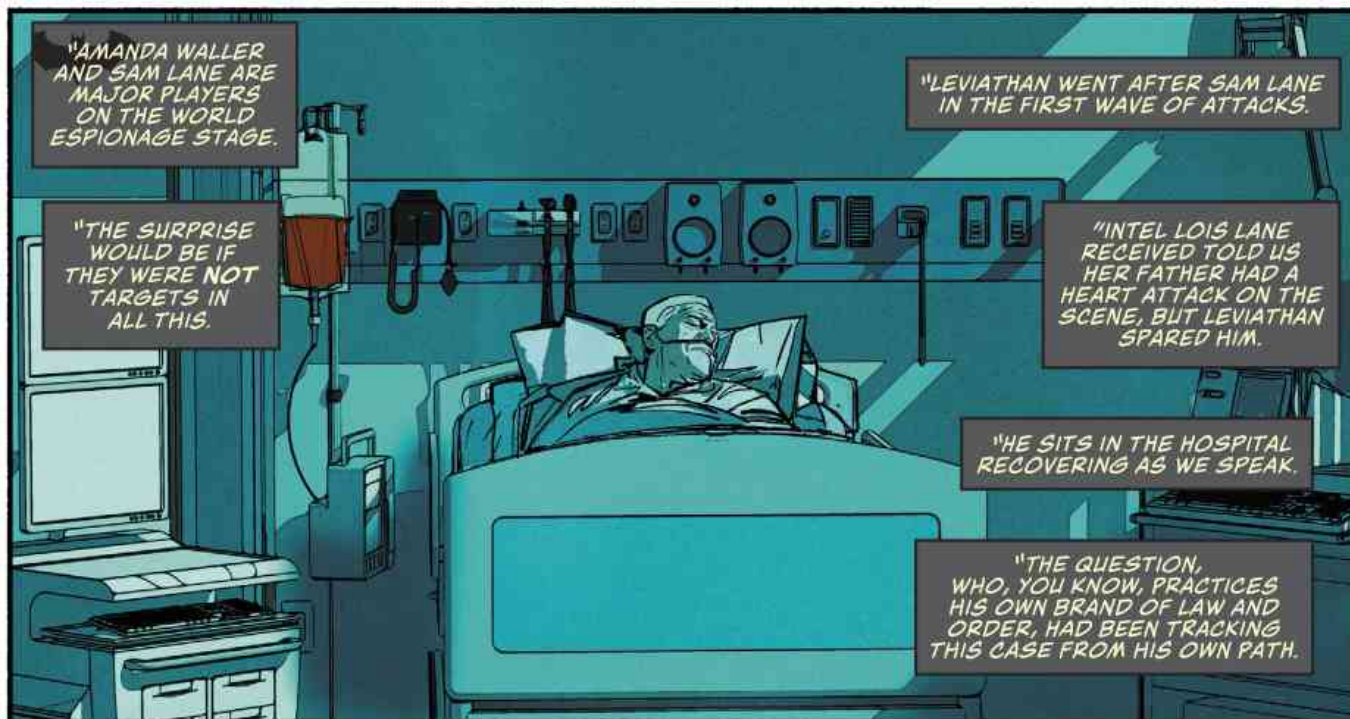
HE AND AMANDA WALLER WERE ATTACKED.

AND THAT IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF A.R.G.U.S...



BUT...

...THAT'S WHERE THE QUESTION MIGHT HAVE FOUND A VERY BIG CLUE...



"AMANDA WALLER AND SAM LANE ARE MAJOR PLAYERS ON THE WORLD ESPIONAGE STAGE."

"LEVIATHAN WENT AFTER SAM LANE IN THE FIRST WAVE OF ATTACKS."

"THE SURPRISE WOULD BE IF THEY WERE NOT TARGETS IN ALL THIS."

"INTEL LOIS LANE RECEIVED TOLD US HER FATHER HAD A HEART ATTACK ON THE SCENE, BUT LEVIATHAN SPARED HIM."

"HE SITS IN THE HOSPITAL RECOVERING AS WE SPEAK."

"THE QUESTION, WHO, YOU KNOW, PRACTICES HIS OWN BRAND OF LAW AND ORDER, HAD BEEN TRACKING THIS CASE FROM HIS OWN PATH."



"HE ENDED UP IN SAM LANE'S HOSPITAL ROOM IN COLUMBUS, OHIO."

"HE DECIDED TO SIT AND WAIT TO SEE WHAT ELSE WALKED THROUGH THE DOOR."

SO WHO'S THE BIG SHOT THAT GETS A BIG SHOT POLICE GUARD OUTSIDE HIS DOOR?



OH, SOME BIG STATE DEPARTMENT GUY.

THEY DON'T WANT THE JOKER COMING IN HERE TRYING OUT SOME OF HIS NEW MATERIAL.

THE JOKER?

THIS IS COLUMBUS, OHIO.

WE'D BE LUCKY TO GET KITE MAN.

DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED ON CAMPUS?

THE ENTIRE GALLERY. IT WAS AWFUL.



SEE,
I NEVER
THOUGHT THE
JOKER WAS
FUNNY.

HARLEY
QUINN IS
FUNNY.

I DON'T
THINK THE JOKER
IS ACTUALLY TRYING
TO GET PEOPLE
TO LAUGH...

I SAW THE
JOKER LITERALLY
FOLLOW BATMAN
AROUND ONCE...

...UM...

...TRYING
TO GET
HIM--

--UM--

--Ooh.

BEGGING
HIM TO PAY
ATTENTION
TO HIM--

OH,
THAT'S--
THAT IS SO
GOOD.

WHAT
TIME IS IT?

I DO FEEL
THAT.

I FEEL
FUNKY.

THANK
GOD...

THAT'S
EXACTLY
WWWWHAT--

I
WASSSSSSS...

...RIGHT!

DO YOU
FEEL THAT?

FUNKY CHICKEN.

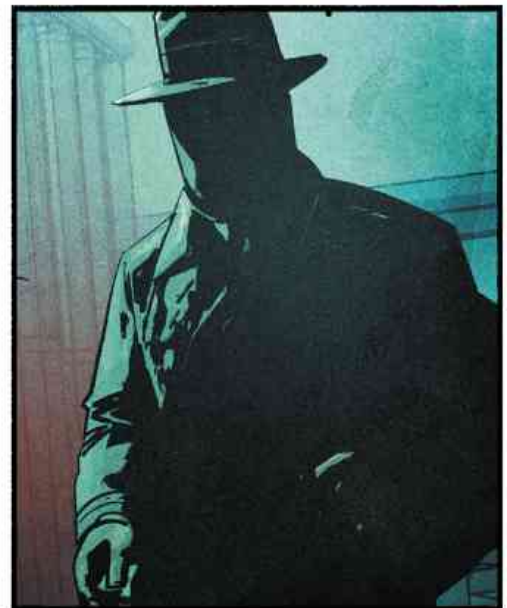
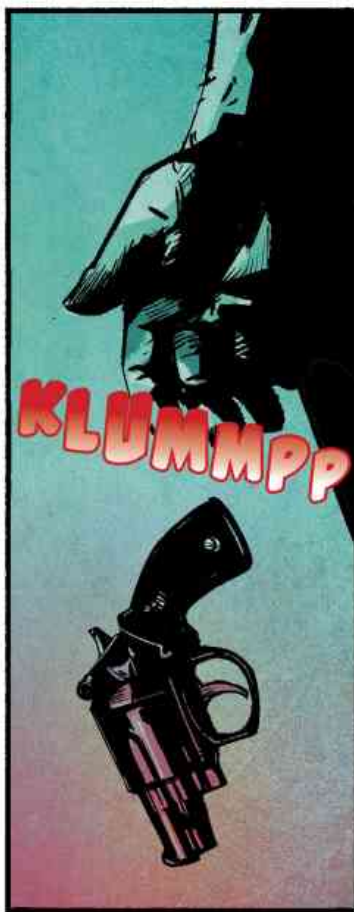
FUUUUUNKY
CHICKEN!



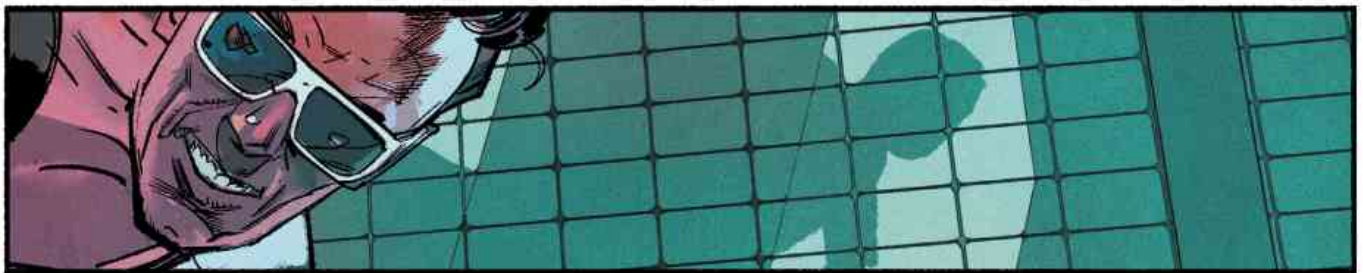


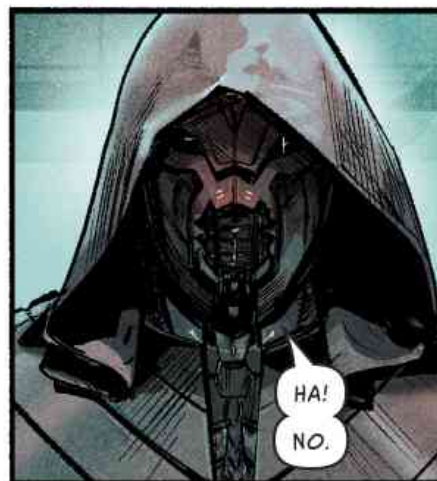














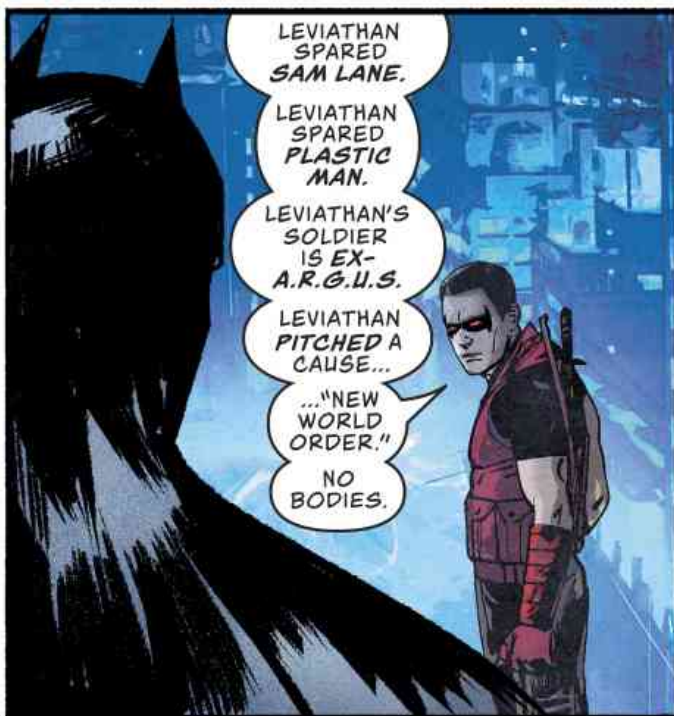






AND
LEVIATHAN
LEFT PLASTIC MAN
AND TOOK THE
BODY.

THAT IS
EXACTLY WHAT
LEVIATHAN
DID.



LEVIATHAN
SPARED
SAM LANE.

LEVIATHAN
SPARED
PLASTIC
MAN.

LEVIATHAN'S
SOLDIER
IS EX-
A.R.G.U.S.

LEVIATHAN
PITCHED A
CAUSE...

... "NEW
WORLD
ORDER."

NO
BODIES.



SO...THE
QUESTION,
PLASTIC MAN,
LOIS LANE...

...YOU ALREADY
PUT YOUR
DETECTIVE TEAM
TOGETHER.

YOU
ALREADY
WORKED
THE CASE.



WHERE'S
AMANDA
WALLER?

WELL,
THAT'S
NEVER
TRUE.

OH,
I WOULD
LIKE TO SPEAK
TO AMANDA
WALLER.

DESPERATE
TIMES.



TALIA AL GHUL,
AMANDA WALLER,
SAM LANE.

THE
LEVIATHAN
SUSPECT LIST
GROWS AND
GROWS.

YES.
STEVE
TREVOR.

OH, STEVE
TREVOR!
GOOD ONE.

DO YOU
DETECTIVES
HAVE A
NUMBER ONE
SUSPECT?

YES.





NEXT: TRUST NO ONE!



CAN THEY DISCOVER WHICH HEROES
THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS HAS INFECTED
...BEFORE THEY DESTROY THE DC UNIVERSE?

BATMAN SUPERMAN

Written by **JOSHUA WILLIAMSON** Art by **DAVID MARQUEZ**



Get the Batman cover
OR the Superman version!



Turn the page to check out a preview of the first issue!

Sneak Preview

IT'S *HIS*
BATCAVE.

HE
TOLD ME
HIMSELF.

WHEN I WAS A ROOKIE AT THE DAILY PLANET, PERRY USED TO TELL ME, "ALWAYS CONSIDER YOUR SOURCE."

NO SIGNS
OF DANNY, BUT
THIS IS WHERE
GORDON WAS
HELD.

Y'KNOW, I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF *YOUR* BATCA AS A GLIMPSE IN YOUR MIND.

THE FIRST TIME YOU BROUGHT ME THERE I SAW THE DINOSAUR, THE GIANT PENNY, THE COLLECTION OF BATMOBILES--

MEMENTOS
OF YOUR PAST
VICTORIES...

...AND
FAILURES.

IT SHOWED
ME HOW
SENTIMENTAL
YOU ARE.

YOU MEAN
HUMAN.

I MEAN YOU
ARE ***NOTHING*** LIKE
THIS BATMAN WHO
LAUGHS.

I WISH
THAT WERE
TRUE...

BATMAN created by Bob Kane with Bill Finger.
SUPERMAN created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster by special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel Family.

...BUT I
RECOGNIZE MY
OWN HANDI-
WORK.

BATARANG
MOLDS?

THE SERUM
HE CREATED WHEN HE
KIDNAPPED GORDON AND
KILLED THE *OTHER* BRUCE
WAYNES WAS SIMILAR IN
COMPOSITION TO THE TOXIN
THAT TRANSFORMED HIM
INTO THE BATMAN WHO
LAUGHS.

TRACES
OF THAT
SERUM...

...MERGED
WITH *NTH*
METAL.

100% MATCH

WHY BRING
GORDON HERE? SEND
SOMEONE TO KIDNAP
DANNY MILLS?

HE HAD
TO KNOW YOU'D
FIND HIS BATCAVE.
MAYBE THAT WAS
THE POINT.

IF YOU'RE
RIGHT AND HE'S
JUST LIKE YOU, THAT
MEANS HE HIDES
THINGS IN PLAIN
SIGHT, RIGHT?

THIS IS A
MESSAGE.

BOTH
SIDES ARE AT
A DRAW.

ANY MOVE
FROM EITHER
PLAYER WOULD
RESULT IN
A LOSS.

PA
AND I USED
TO PLAY EVERY
SUNDAY AFTER
FOOTBALL.

WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN
WE STOP PLAYING
THE BATMAN
WHO LAUGHS'
GAMES?

BEEP

TSSSSSSHHH

THE
JUSTICE LEAGUE.
THE TITANS, TEEN
TITANS. MY GOD...
IT'S...

...EVERYONE.



ANY OF
THEM COULD
POTENTIALLY BE
TARGETS FOR
HIS INFECTED
BATARANGS...
CHANGED INTO A
MONSTER LIKE
HIM.

THIS
IS BIGGER
THAN GOTHAM,
BATMAN.

YOU SAID
"POTENTIALLY"...

...BUT WHAT
IF HE'S *ALREADY*
POISONED PEOPLE
WE KNOW?

THIS
IS WHY HE
WANTED US HERE.
WE'D QUESTION
EVERYONE. OUR
FRIENDS. OUR
FAMILIES.



SO WE'D
HAVE NO IDEA
WHO WE CAN
TRUST.



CAW!

NGH.

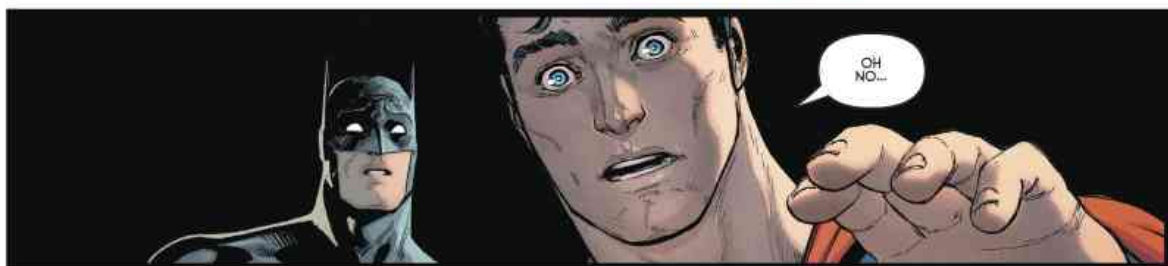
CAW!
CAW! CAW! CAW!

ONE OF HIS ROBINS?!
BUT WHERE DID HE--

TOOK
ME FROM MY
FAMILY.

HIT
ME WITH A
BATARANG.

DC Sneak Preview



On Sale in August

BATMAN

CURSE OF THE WHITE KNIGHT



A **DC NATION** INTERVIEW WITH WRITER/ARTIST **SEAN MURPHY**

What can you tell us about the story?

If you think Jack Napier was unhinged in *BATMAN: WHITE KNIGHT*, that's nothing compared to what Joker does with Azrael in *BATMAN: CURSE OF THE WHITE KNIGHT*. As Bruce struggles with the idea of telling Gotham the identity of Batman, Joker threatens to expose a hidden truth about the Wayne family. Something that even Bruce isn't aware of. Something that goes all the way to the founding of Gotham village in 1685.

Why are you excited about this project?

I'm interested in going deep into the past of the Wayne family and how they've come to power in modern-day Gotham. *BATMAN: WHITE KNIGHT* focused a lot on the present; *BATMAN: CURSE OF THE WHITE KNIGHT* will focus more on the deep past. And if there's a third series, my plan is to focus on the future of Batman.

What's it like to be both the writer and artist on this series (along with your collaboration with Matt Hollingsworth)?

It's a lot of work, but it's the most satisfying way for me to make comics. Writing the scripts is also a great way to

ensure the artwork is the best I can make it. I always put 100 percent into my books, but being the writer makes me strive for 110 percent.

How does this tie into the current DC Universe?

This book is set aside from the current DCU. It's marketed like a Batman movie: a familiar Batman but with a different spin. One that doesn't require the reader to be fluent in 80 years of Batman comics.

Why should fans check this out?

Readers should check this out because it's slightly different from what they're used to reading about Batman. And there aren't many "single vision" mainstream books these days (meaning the writing and art are handled by the same person).

Describe the series in seven words or fewer.

If you miss this, you'll regret it.

What should first-time readers know before picking this up?

Nothing! You can come to this series without ever having read a comic.



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